

STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MEMORANDUM

DAVID PILITTELL

COMMISSIONER

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

GOVERNOR TO

Board of Enymonmental Protection

FROM

Richard Baker Shoreland Zoning Coordinator

DATE.

May 1, 2008

SUBJ.

Request for Authorization to Initiate Rule-making to Amend State

Imposed Shoreland Zoning Map for the Town of Carthage

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY REFERENCE 38 M R S A, Section 438-A(4) (Mandatory Shoreland Zoning Act) and Chapter 1000 (State of Maine Guidelines for Municipal Shoreland Zoning Ordinances).

Section 438-A(4) authorizes the Board of Environmental Protection (Board) to adopt suitable shoreland zoning ordinances and maps for those municipalities which fail to adopt an ordinance consistent with or no less restrictive than the Board's Guidelines. The Board adopted an ordinance and map for the Town of Carthage on April 2, 1994 (Chapter 1292). David Harvey of Timber Meadow, Inc. which owns all of the land surrounding Podunk Pond in Carthage has petitioned the Board to amend the shoreland zoning map by rezoning the area from the Resource Protection District to the Limited Residential District

LOCATION. The entire shoreland zone surrounding Podunk Pond in Carthage near the border with the town of Dixfield.

DESCRIPTION The area's current Resource Protection zoning is due to Podunk Pond's past use as a water supply for the town of Dixfield. The pond is no longer used as a water supply and the Town has released to the owner, its rights associated with the water source. The Pond has no characteristics that require the surrounding shoreland zone to remain in the Resource Protection District

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES. If the area surrounding the pond is rezoned, single family residential structures will be allowed no closer than 100 feet from the normal high water line of the pond. Also, timber harvesting activities will be permitted in compliance with the timber harvesting standards without the need to obtain a permit from the code enforcement officer. Because the area surrounding the pond does not meet any of the enteria for Resource Protection zoning it is appropriate to change the districting to the Limited Residential District

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION Initiate rulemaking activities in order to obtain public input on the requested rezoning. We request that a 30 day public comment period be authorized.

ESTIMATED TIME OF PRESENTATION 5-10 minutes